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STUDENT BULLYING

The Andes Central School District is committed to maintaining a constructive, safe school climate that is conducive to student learning and fostering an environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity.

Persistent bullying can severely inhibit a student's ability to learn and may have lasting negative effects on a student's life. The bullying of students by students, staff or third parties is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated.

Bullying consists of physical, verbal, written or electronic conduct directed toward a student that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it:

1. has the purpose of effecting or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic environment, or
2. has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance which deprives the student access to educational opportunities.

This policy is in effect while students are on property within the jurisdiction of the board; while students are in school-owned or school operated vehicles; while students are attending or engaged in school-sponsored activities; and while students are away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations, in accordance with this policy, to protect the district's students from harmful effects of bullying. Regulations accompanying this policy shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Additional definitions, if necessary, to assist in the implementation of this policy;
2. A procedure to report incidents of bullying;
3. A process to investigate reported acts of bullying;

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4. A procedure, consistent with district policy, to provide appropriate consequences for any individual found to have engaged in bullying;
5. A statement prohibiting retaliation against individuals who, in good faith, report acts of bullying; and
6. A process to inform staff, students, and parents of the district's bullying prevention policies and efforts.

This policy shall not be interpreted to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate protected under the state or federal constitutions where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process or intrude upon the rights of others.

Legal References:

- Cross References:** ACAA, Sexual Harassment
 JF, Student Rights and Responsibilities
 JFA, Student Due Process
 JFC, Student Conduct
 JFCC (EEACC), Student Conduct on School Buses
 JJ, Cyber Bullying
 JFCF, Hazing
 JFCE-R Student Bullying—Regulation
 JG, Student Discipline
 JGD, Student Suspension and Expulsion

Adopted: July 13, 2009

Revised: